

The Opioid Epidemic: A public Health Emergency

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Sociology 339

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1969: Drug use becomes national threat

1971: "War on Drugs" declared by Nixon

1973: DEA created

1986: Reagan signs Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986, giving \$1.7 billion to fight the drug war

1989: President Bush creates Office of National Drug Control Policy

2000: Clinton gives 1.3 billion to help Columbia w/ drug trade

2017: Trump declares Opioid Crisis a Public Health Emergency

2016 Opioid Deaths by Race:

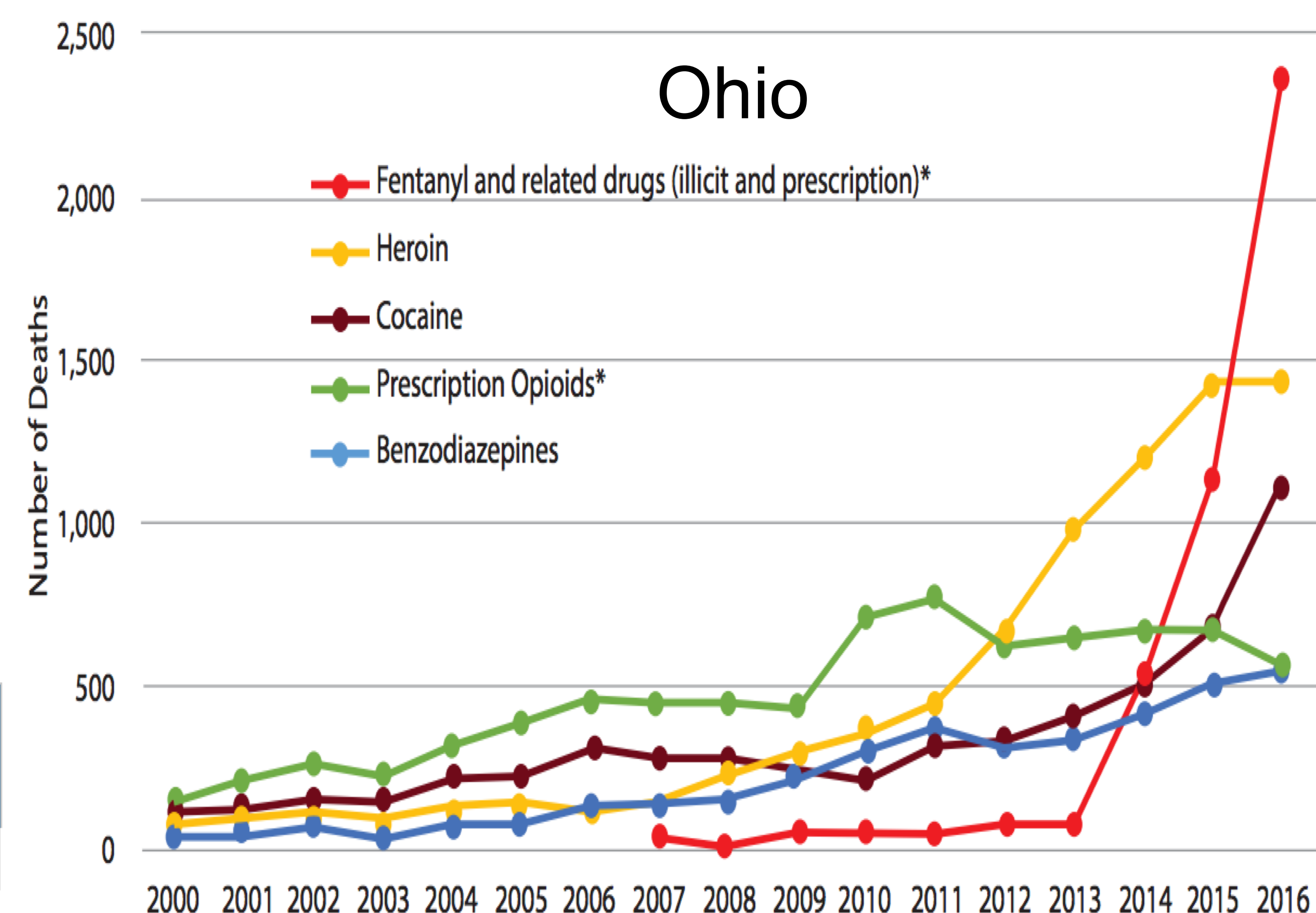
Location	White, Non-Hispanic	Black, Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	Total
Ohio	89%	9%	2%	100%

Causes:

- Widespread job loss post great recession
- I-70 and I-75 being built
 - "Dayton used to be a flourishing manufacturing city and a booming town with lots of entertainment, but after I-75 came - that's what broke up the whole city as far as I'm concerned." Mary Varnado's Facing Narrative
- Doctors prescribing too many and too often
- Cycle of Poverty
 - Intergenerational Poverty
- Society's approach at drugs
 - Marijuana vs. Opioids

Opportunities:

- Change approach to addiction
 - Treatment options
 - Education
- Look at Root Causes
 - Prescriptions
- Programs in Dayton
 - East End Community: helps people by providing schooling, health services, employment and a safe community
 - Community Action Drug Overdose Team: works to reduce drug overdose and find ways to help epidemic



References:

Alexander, Michelle. *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. The New Press, 2012.

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 2016 Ohio Drug Overdose Data: General Findings. www.odh.ohio.gov/-/media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/health/injury-prevention/2016-Ohio-Drug-Overdose-Report-FINAL.pdf?la=en.

Varnado, Mary. Facing Narrative. "Investing in Our Community."